

worked on this bill, but I've watched what has happened on the floor and I'll tell you something else. This bill ought to just be declared to be what it is. It's a bill for the pharmacists. I know that we can discuss health care and so forth, but that is not, in my opinion, why the pharmacists want the bill and I think if the pharmacists had not raised the issue, the bill would not be before us. I don't think there is anything evil or wicked about saying the pharmacists want a bill that will help them. They're in business to make money. They think and are convinced, whether rightly or wrongly, that the way things are now, some of them cannot compete and if they don't compete, they're going to go out of business. They want to stay in business. They want a bill of this kind because it might give them a chance, which without it, they think they don't have. My belief is if there are pharmacies so close to going out of business that the passage of this bill is the only thing that will save them, they cannot be saved. If only 8 percent of the drugs that people purchase are purchased from these drug supply houses or these mail order drug houses, that means 92 percent are purchased from the local pharmacist. If 92 percent of his or her drug business is not going to be touched by the mail order houses and that 8 percent which the mail order houses are getting will make him or her go out of business if they don't cut into that 8 percent, they cannot stay in business. What they would be telling me is that they operate on such a narrow margin that if you don't give them every bit of the drug traffic, drug trade, they're through. Maybe they need to be. If you're going to talk, on the one hand, about free enterprise, private enterprise, and then come in with bills that are targeted to one particular aspect of the economy, you can do that, but you can't turn around when we're talking about workers and want to target some legislation about them and say, well, we don't want to manage the economy, we cannot do this for the workers, we need certain aspects of free enterprise to be in play and the aspects we want are those that will help the big shots, the profit makers to exploit the workers. But when those who are little shots and would be big shots who are in a profession, then we don't want the dynamics of the free enterprise system to operate. If, according to the dynamics of the free enterprise system, they cannot compete, then they want to come to the Legislature and the Legislature will agree to help them by manipulating changing these dynamics, inhibiting some from even coming into play so that the favored profession can get help. But for the workers, no way. This is a class driven society. If you belong to the right class,...